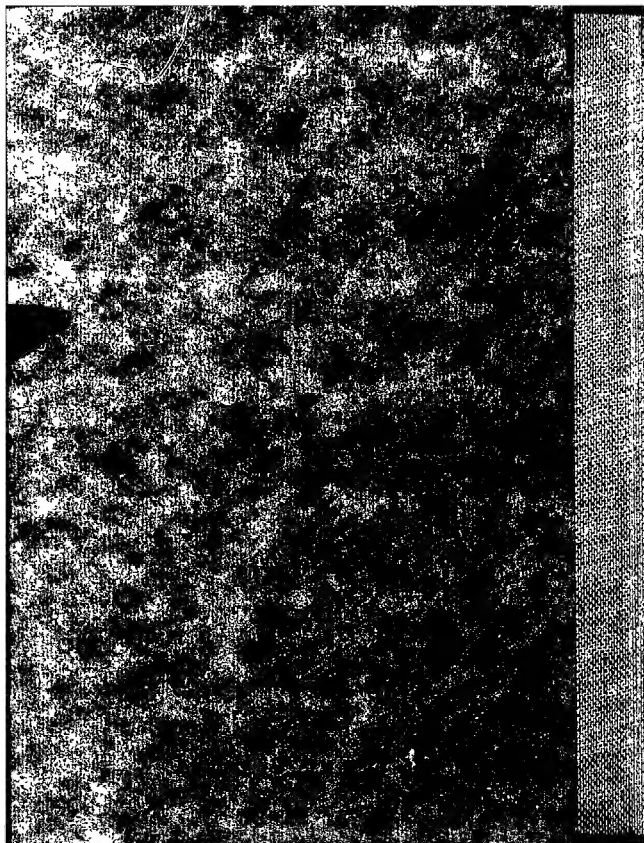


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# A Quarter Century of Progress

A partial record of the activities  
of the S.G.G.A. from 1901  
to the present time.

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**THE SASK. GRAIN GROWERS' ASS'N.,  
LIMITED**

**Sherwood Building, Albert St., Regina**

**Issued April, 1926**

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## FOREWORD

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"Very often we hear the question: What is the Association; or, What is it doing? What service is it rendering to the farmers of this country? These are pertinent questions."

The above is an extract from the first report of Mr. McPhail, Central Secretary, to the Saskatoon Convention, January, 1923, and this pamphlet is an effort to supply the answer to these questions in a concrete and convincing form.

As the best method of doing this, we have attempted to present, in the shortest form practicable, a record of the activities, accomplishments and efforts of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association on behalf of the farmers of the Province, from its inception to the present time. This record is not by any means complete, but is sufficient to prove that the Association has all along been watching and protecting the interests of the farming community in every way possible. What the Association has done in the past it is doing at present, and will continue to do in the future. We believe that the record given, together with its services in the present and its plans for the future, warrant the Association in claiming the support of every farmer in the Province.

## **SOME WAYS IN WHICH THE S.G.G.A. HAS HELPED THE FARMER**

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1. The S.G.G.A. was organized under the name of the "Territorial Grain Growers' Association," December 18th, 1901, at Indian Head, with W. R. Motherwell, Abernethy, as the first President and John Millar, of Indian Head, as the first Secretary.

2. The first Annual Convention was held at Indian Head, February, 1902. Thirty-eight locals organized, and each represented at the Convention.

3. In the fall of 1902, the right to the car order book was won by the Association taking action against the Canadian Pacific Railway agent at Sintaluta. This was the first substantial victory won by the Association.

4. The Association secured the right to the loading platform for the loading of wheat on the track.

5. On January 9th, 1903, the Virden Grain Growers' Association was organized by E. A. Partridge and Matthew Snow, of Wolseley, a director of the Territorial (Saskatchewan) Grain Growers' Association.

6. In March, 1903, the Virden Grain Growers' Association became a provincial organization, the name Manitoba taking the place of Virden. The S.G.G.A. thus became the Mother of the entire farmers' movement of Canada.

7. In 1904 the Association secured the appointment of a man temporarily to watch the grading of cars, and to see to farmers' interests generally, and also secured the abolition of Eastern re-inspection of grain.

8. On January 7th, 1905, E. A. Partridge was sent to Winnipeg to investigate grain marketing methods, the members present at the meeting subscribing \$5.00 each for the purpose.

9. In December, 1905, Association representatives for the first time presented their views before the Tariff Commission at Regina, in the interest of the farming industry.

10. The Grain Growers' Grain Company, Limited, established, arising out of a resolution presented to the Convention of 1906-07.

11. Several resolutions urging amendments to the Grain Act were passed in February, 1906. A conference of the Executives of the Manitoba and Saskatchewan Associations was held with the object of securing uniformity in recommendations re amendments to the Grain and Inspections Acts. This appears to be about one of the first recorded instances of interprovincial action.

12. In February, 1906, the name of the Association was altered to Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association.

13. In February, 1907, President E. N. Hopkins announced the appointment by the Federal Government of a Royal Grain Commission, with John Millar, Secretary of the Association, as chairman, as a result of the conference with the Manitoba Executive mentioned above.

14. In February, 1907, a resolution was adopted in favor of compulsory hail insurance; also one favoring the installation of a government owned and operated provincial telephone system. This was adopted by the Government.

15. In February, 1907, a resolution was adopted requesting additional loading platform accommodation wherever such was inadequate. As a result an amendment of the Grain Act was obtained, requiring railway companies to provide additional loading platform accommodation, based on a sliding scale.

16. In 1908 a Provincial Government storage system was adopted by all three provincial associations, the Alberta Association having by that time been organized.

17. In 1908 the Interprovincial Council of Grain Growers', the forerunner of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, was organized.

18. In February, 1908, the Life Membership Scheme of the Association was established.

19. Commercial grades of one and two feed oats established in response to a resolution passed by the Convention of 1908.

20. A delegation to the Provincial Government in 1908 obtained action re noxious weeds, the act to be administered in future by the municipalities.

21. In 1909 the Committee on Agriculture of the Federal House reported in favor of a searching investigation re government internal elevators, as

a result of an address given before the Committee by F. W. Green, Secretary of the S.G.G.A.

22. The Municipal Hail Insurance Association was established on the request of the S.G.G.A. This Association has been the means of saving many millions of dollars to the farmers of the Province.

23. Preference of threshers' wages over all liens, mortgages, etc., secured.

24. In 1910 the draft constitution of the Canadian Council of Agriculture was adopted.

25. In 1910 Mr. Motherwell, Minister of Agriculture, was requested by the executive of the Association to institute an enquiry re relief for settlers in the Southern part of the Province.

26. Deputations of Grain Growers met Sir Wilfred Laurier at every point touched by him in the Province, during his tour of 1910, to present the views of the Association. In all probability the Reciprocity pact as proposed by the Federal Government, and which was the outstanding issue in the elections of the year 1911, was a direct result of this action on the part of the Associations.

27. In 1911 the Emergency Fund which benefitted enormously many hundreds of members of the S.G.G.A. was established.

28. In 1911 the Co-operative Elevator Company was established, arising out of action of the Association. By its action in bringing into being this company and the United Grain Growers', Limited, together with its great influence on grain legislation, the S.G.G.A. has saved for every far-

mer more than the amount of the Association fee each year, on every load of wheat sold.

29. In 1912 F. W. Green, Secretary of the Association was appointed on a commission re Terminal Elevators.

30. In 1912 the Association placed before the Provincial Government a proposition to secure a coal supply for the Province; also secured relief from the car blockade through the railway commission.

31. In 1912 F. W. Green, Secretary of the Association, interviewed the Government re car shortage.

32. In 1912 also the Association was represented by the Secretary before the Grain Commission at Moose Jaw, also before the Government on car distribution, and before the Senate on Reciprocity.

33. Arising out of action of the Association, Dominion Government interior storage elevators were established in 1912 at central points, with terminal facilities.

34. In 1912 the provincial government appointed a man to present the case for equalization of freight rates between east and west to the Railway Commission. This was done on the request of the S.G.G.A.

35. The Association secured the establishment of Consolidated Schools, 1913.

36. Local co-operative associations legally incorporated in 1913 at the request of the Saskatchewan Grain Growers' Association.

37. First Women's Convention held, 1913.

38. Royal Commission on Agricultural Credits appointed in 1913 owing to the action of the Association. This led eventually to the establishment of the Farm Loan Scheme.

39. Investigation of grain marketing facilities in Liverpool and European countries provided for at the request of the S.G.G.A.

40. Delegations represented the Association in 1913 as follows: At Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, Winnipeg and Fort William before the Grain Commission; at Minneapolis on two occasions re grain marketing; at Ottawa on two occasions, at Montreal re terminals; and also before the Credit Commission.

41. Co-operative trading department established in 1914.

42. The Association opposed the retail sale of liquor, 1914.

43. Adopted a resolution in favor of Direct Legislation, 1914.

44. Grain tickets showing gross, tare and net weights secured.

45. The Association opposed all grants to railway companies, 1914.

46. Patriotic Fund established October, 1914.

47. The Executive urged the Dominion Government to make advances to farmers in drouth stricken areas, March, 1915.

48. Secured the concession of special seed grain rates from the railway companies, on production of a certificate signed by the local secretary and Central Secretary of the Association. This has saved to farmers many times the entire revenue of the Central Office.

49. The Association rendered valuable assistance to destitute members, 1915.

50. It was established by the courts on the appeal of the Association, re Hafford Village vs. J. E. Gilders, that local bodies of farmers could not be held liable under the Transient Traders' Act, 1915

51. Seed Grain Exhibit undertaken by the Association in conjunction with the Provincial Exhibition Board, 1915.

52. In 1915 the Women's Section did good work for women's suffrage, temperance, travelling libraries, home economics, district nurses, co-operative marketing and purchasing, social service, patriotic work, relief work, etc. Also secured publication of a pamphlet on "Laws affecting women and children."

53. Franchise for women on liquor referendum granted by Federal Government at Association's request, 1916.

54. The Association executive was represented at "Banish the Bar" Convention, August, 1916.

55. The Association appointed a representative on a Committee to devise means to meet hall

losses of 1916, and to place the Hail Insurance Commission on a more satisfactory financial basis.

56. A representative was appointed to sit with the Committee for the revision of the curriculum and text books for public schools, 1916.

57. In 1916 the S.G.G.A. protested to the Board of Grain Commissioners against line elevator companies claiming ownership of grain stored by farmers.

58. The Association appealed the case of Anderson and Eddy vs. Canadian Northern Railway, (liability for horses killed on track) 1916. Largely in consequence of pressure exerted by the Association the Railway Act was subsequently amended so as to fix more definitely the responsibility of railway companies in similar cases.

59. The Dower Law, requiring a wife's signature before the husband can sell the homestead, passed at the instance of the Association.

60. Resolution passed in favor of equal franchise for women. The Association sent the Central Secretary and Vice-President of the Women's Section as a deputation to the Government to urge this reform, which was subsequently brought about.

61. Resolution passed favoring Government ownership and operation of the Canadian National Railway.

62. The Women's Section obtained the concession of the Open Shelf Library. The Association

secured the amendment of the Agricultural Co-operative Association's Act, to enable associations to incorporate for the provision of community halls.

63. Resolution passed favoring a referendum re closing liquor dispensaries.

64. Farm Implement Act secured, 1916.

65. Amendments to Exemptions Act secured, giving increased exemptions, 1916.

66. Special Seed Grain Rates re-secured over a greatly extended area, 1916.

67. Haug Brothers and Nellerroe vs. Murdock, an implement case, taken up by the Association. Defendant was released from his obligations to the Company to the extent of \$5,000 and also received \$2,500 damages, as a result of the Association's action.

68. Hart-Parr vs. Wells case was successfully carried through the courts by the Association, on behalf of Wells. The defendant won the case after a long fight, in 1916.

69. 3,200,000 lbs. of flour was shipped in 40,000 sacks of 80 lbs. each, in one train load of 41 cars, as a result of the Patriotic Acre Scheme. This was presented to the Governor General (the Duke of Connaught) as the representative of the British Government, and was delivered in France for the use of the British Army, August, 1916.

70. Association Patriotic contributions, including the above, amounted up to this date (1916) to about \$200,000.00.

70a. A reduced rate on stockers and feeders going back to farms was first instituted in 1916 at the request of the Grain Growers' Associations of the three Western provinces.

71. In 1916 it was decided that the surplus of \$19,000 in the Patriotic Acre Fund should be used for patriotic purposes.

72. The Farmers' Platform was adopted by Convention of 1916.

73. Teachers' Bureau established at the request of the Women's Section.

74. Dominion Government asked to supply seed wheat to farmers suffering from hail and rust, payments to be extended over two years, 1917.

75. The Association requested the throwing open of the Wallace Lease for homestead entries, 1917.

76. Grain Growers' Sunday established, 1917.

77. Much good work done by Women's Section in favor of medical and hospital accommodation and district nurses, 1917.

78. Constitution for Junior organizations adopted 1917.

79. Executive represented at Conference with Board of Grain Commissioners, Board of Grain Supervisors, Railway Commissioners, Food Control Committee, Social Service Congress and Greater Hog Production Conference, 1917.

80. Recognition won for Canadian Council of Agriculture, with the submission to it of the proposed regulations for the commandeering of the 1917 wheat crop, thus showing the value of thorough organization, 1917. The Government proposed to fix the price at \$1.30 per bushel. The Association, acting in conjunction with those of Manitoba and Alberta, refused to agree to this, and as a result of their action the price was set at \$2.21 per bushel, showing a gain to farmers of 91c per bushel, amounting approximately to a saving of \$200,000,000 for Saskatchewan alone in that one year. H. W. Wood, President of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, was appointed to represent Western farmers on the Board of Grain Supervisors which dealt with the question.

81. Secured fixed prices on flour and mill feed and other benefits in 1917.

82. The attempt of grocers to secure control of distribution of groceries and other food supplies frustrated as a result of a conference between members of Association Executive and the Food Control Board at Ottawa, 1917.

83. Grants made from the Patriotic Acre Fund of \$2,000 each to the British Sailors' Relief Fund and National Council of the Y. M. C. A. for Overseas Military Service, 1917.

84. Contributions for other Patriotic Funds made during the year 1917 by locals amounting to \$10,227.

85. Grant of \$1,000 from the Patriotic Acre Fund to the Committee for Agricultural Relief of the Allies, 1917.

86. \$1,015.25 contributed by delegates and locals to the Y.M.C.A. Military Fund, 1917.

87. Peddling from cars, which had been ordered stopped by railway companies, re-established by the action of the Association, 1917.

88. Action by the Central Board in opposition to an increase in freight rates, 1917.

89. Seed Grain Exemption raised from 80 acres to 160 acres at the request of the Association, 1918.

90. Grants of \$250 each to the Returned Soldiers Welcome and Aid League and the Great War Veterans' Association, Regina Branch, 1918.

91. The Central Board co-operated with the Soldier Settlement Board, re settlement of returned soldiers on the land, 1918.

92. Women's department, Bureau of Labor, established at the request of the Women's Section, 1918.

93. President Maharg visited Europe as Dominion Government representative on grain marketing problems, 1918.

94. Interprovincial Council of Farm Women, now the Women's Section of the Canadian Council of Agriculture formed.

95. When the Government discontinued the control of the sale of wheat, the Association urged

the Cabinet to fix the price of the 1919 crop on the same basis as that of 1918.

96. The first demand for the establishment of a wheat board for the Dominion was made by the Canadian Council of Agriculture on August 19th, 1918 and was repeated on July 11th, 1919. This demand was acceded to by the Government, the Canada Wheat Board being established in the latter part of July, 1919.

97. The Association secured many settlements for members, including a claim of \$4,000 settled for \$500 cash, withdrawal of a claim for \$175 for machinery repairs after suit had been entered, two claims for damage by fire to hay caused by locomotives, and many others, 1918.

98. The Women's Section co-operated with the Bureau of Public Health re lectures on Home Nursing, and short courses for Nurses' Aids, 1919.

99. The Women's Section co-operated with Dr. J. T. M. Anderson re Canadianizing Non-English, 1919.

100. The New National Policy Political Association was established and the Liberty Drive for funds carried through by the S.G.G.A. on the instructions of the Annual Convention, in 1919.

101. The Women's Section, in co-operation with other provinces, formed the Canadian Council of Immigration of Women for Household Service, which has brought out, up to the end of April, 1926, approximately 835 girls for this work.

102. The Women's Section co-operated in the formation of a permanent National Council of Education, 1919.

103. The Association supported the determination of grades by milling value, 1919.

104. Legal Bureau established, 1919.

105. An insurance claim for \$5,000 successfully upheld on behalf of a member by the Association, 1919.

106. Two machinery cases settled by the S.G.G.A. in favor of members—one by the return of all cash paid, and the other by the supply of a new engine, 1919.

107. Three claims for cattle killed on the tracks successfully negotiated, 1919.

108. An appeal was made by the Association for assistance for crop-failure areas. Large contributions in cash and clothing were received and distributed, 1919.

109. The Executive met the Wheat Board and urged the necessity of retaining all grain suitable for seed convenient to the areas where required.

110. The Association circularized locals warning members against the sale of Wheat Board participation certificates.

111. The Association secured a reduction in the price of seed wheat sold to farmers in dried-out areas from \$2.80 per bushel plus carrying charges. to \$2.45 per bushel without carrying charges, 1919.

112. The Women's Section was acknowledged by Hon. N. W. Rowell as one of the factors in bringing about the organization of a Federal Bureau of Health, 1919.

113. Many branches of Women's Section established courses in First Aid to the Injured, 1919.

114. Six cylinder seven passenger McLaughlin car presented to the Red Cross Society, by the Women's Section, at a cost of \$2,175, for the use of sick and disabled soldiers in Earl Grey Hospital, Regina, 1920.

115. The Association demanded the continuation of national marketing of wheat, 1920.

116. Supported national insurance for returned soldiers not insurable with life insurance companies, payment of pensions on a disability basis, allowance to families of deceased soldiers on an equal basis, and soldiers' re-establishment, 1920.

117. Directors of the Women's Section convened with the Central Board for the first time in July, 1920.

118. The Association opposed the establishment of a military system in Canada.

119. The Women's Section was largely instrumental in securing a survey of abnormal mental conditions in Canada, 1920.

120. The Convention passed a strong resolution requesting the Federal Government to carry out a thorough survey of dry areas in the Province, 1920.

121. The S.G.G.A. supported the Liquor referendum, 1920.

122. The S.G.G.A. and Canadian Council of Agriculture presented the case for lower tariffs before the Tariff Commission, 1920.

123. The S.G.G.A. opposed increased freight charges through the Canadian Council of Agriculture, 1920.

124. In 1920 also the Canadian Council of Agriculture urged the re-appointment of the Wheat Board to market the 1921 crop.

125. The Canadian Council of Agriculture later appointed a committee to enquire into the possibility of co-operative marketing of wheat in case government control was not adopted. This committee reported that a wheat pool on a five-year contract basis, covering an acreage of 60 per cent. would be a possibility. This was the pioneer attempt at establishing co-operative grain marketing in the West.

126. The Association called a conference of Agricultural Co-operative Association Managers to discuss problems of co-operative trading, 1920.

127. Weyburn-Lethbridge Line completed, due to pressure by the Association.

128. The Association urged the removal of the embargo on Canadian Cattle entering the British Isles, 1921. This has since been brought about.

129. The Women's Section assisted in the building of community halls, the establishment of rest rooms, securing district nurses, mothers' pensions and many other activities.

130. A reduction of freight rates was demanded by the Association at sittings of the Board of Railway Commissioners, May, 1921.

131. The Association was represented at a Debtor and Creditor Conference called by Premier Dunning, in November, 1921; and also at two conferences on the Farm Labor problem in March of the same year.

132. The Association was represented on a committee of the Canadian Council of Agriculture, to enquire into the feasibility of a Wheat Pool, 1921.

133. The Canadian Council of Agriculture appointed F. W. Riddell, J. R. Murray and H. W. Wood a committee on Wheat Marketing. This committee recommended the appointment of a Co-operative Grain Marketing Committee, charged with the formation of a Co-operative Grain Marketing Association. On this committee the S.G.G.A. was represented along with the other bodies comprising the Canadian Council of Agriculture. Owing to existing conditions it was felt however, that it was not feasible to proceed with the project at that time. An alternative plan for a pool was submitted to the committee, but no action was taken at that time owing to the demand in Saskatchewan for a Wheat Board.

134. The Convention demanded the re-instatement of the Canada Wheat Board with Messrs. Stewart and Riddell again in charge, 1922.

135. Binder twine was sold by the Association at some points at from 1¾c to 3c below local prices, 1922.

136. Annual conferences of the Association with the Bureau of Labor and farmers' organizations in Manitoba and Alberta, to deal with farm labor supply and wages, established, 1922.

137. Marketing of by-products of the farm taken up by Women's Section, 1922.

138. University of Saskatchewan requested to make tests of moisture content of grain, 1922.

139. Resolution passed demanding a Federal System of Long Term Credits, 1922.

140. Organization districts re-arranged on a provincial constituency basis, County Chairmen and Municipal Organizers appointed, 1922.

141. The President of the Association appointed a member of the Canadian Council of Agriculture committee to demand the re-establishment of Wheat Board, 1922.

142. President of Association interviewed Canadian Pacific Railway and Canadian National Railway heads re extensions in Saskatchewan, 1922.

143. Executive represented at Conference at the Parliament Buildings, which resulted in the establishment of the Debt Adjustment Bureau, September, 1922.

144. The Executive demanded the abolition of mixing of grain ordered held by farmers in private terminal elevators, except with the consent of the owner, the demand being presented by the President and Secretary before the Board of Grain Commissioners in Winnipeg, October, 1922. This action resulted in amendments to the rules and regulations of the Grain Commission along the lines suggested.

145. Through the efforts of the New National Policy Political Association, established by the S.G.G.A. in 1919, an almost solid representation of Progressive Members was sent to Ottawa from Saskatchewan in December, 1921. As a direct result of their united and determined attitude of uncompromising opposition in Parliament to any further suspension of the terms of the Crows' Nest Pass agreement as they related to grain, we paid an average of 5 cents per bushel less freight on every bushel of wheat shipped from Saskatchewan to Fort William during the years 1922-23. It is estimated that this alone saved the farmers of the three prairie provinces at least \$25,000,000 in 1922, to say nothing of 1923. It means that every farmer who marketed 40 bushels of wheat received \$2.00 (the price of his membership fee in the Association), or for a car-load of wheat \$75.00 more than he would, were it not for the successful fight of his representatives in Parliament during the session of 1922.

146. The Executive wired the Minister of Trade and Commerce in 1922 asking for the abrogation of the Coasting Laws, which would have had the effect of lowering the excessive charges for carrying grain on the Great Lakes.

147. The Women's Section secured the establishment of a Public Speaking Course for women at the Saskatchewan University; and of a short course for rural girls at Regina College, 1922.

148. Proportional Representation and the Alternative Ballot adopted for the election of officers, 1923.

149. The League of Nations was supported by the Annual Convention of 1923.

150. In the same year the Association demanded the appointment of a Royal Commission to enquire into the whole question of the Canadian Banking System, for the protection of the public against the dangers of centralization, and to report on the best methods of Federal supervision and inspection. Also demanded that bank charters be extended for one year only, until the report of the proposed Royal Commission could be presented.

151. The Convention supported the action of the Canadian Council of Agriculture in attempting to formulate a plan for the funding of farmers' debts, 1923.

152. The Women's Section secured compulsory provisions for the grading and marking of eggs,

whether exported or sold inter-provincially, thus raising the general standard and increasing the returns, 1923.

153. The Women's Section in 1923 demanded the amendment of the Education Act to require the attendance of children at school, up to the age of sixteen if necessary, until they attained the standard of grade six. This was taken into consideration by the Education Department, and the standard was eventually fixed at grade five, but without any age limit.

154. The Women's Section demanded that the marriage age for girls be raised to sixteen years, 1923.

155. The Association asked in 1923 for the introduction of a system under which persons with a fluctuating income would be taxed on their average income over a term of years, and so place them on a level with those whose incomes are fixed.

156. The Association supported the demand for the appointment of a Royal Commission on the grain trade. A commission was appointed later in the year, with Hon. W. F. A. Turgeon as Chairman, 1923.

157. In 1923 a resolution was passed demanding the total elimination of the protective principle in the tariff.

158. In 1923 the Executive established "The Progressive" newspaper, the policy of which is in

the control of the S.G.G.A., and in the interest of the farming community in general. "The Progressive" was one of the biggest factors in putting the Wheat Pool "over the top," and, with the exception of the country weeklies, was almost the only dependable medium in the press for publicity purposes. The paper is now known as "The Western Producer."

159. The Women's Section promoted an essay contest in 1923 for farm women on "Permanent Homes through Horticulture," and one for rural school children on "The Ideal Citizen"; also made a survey of rural conditions.

160. The Women's Section co-operated with The Anti-Tuberculosis Society for the care of tubercular mothers, 1923.

161. Mrs. Flatt, a former President of the Women's Section, was appointed representative of rural women on the Dominion Council of Health in 1923.

162. Municipal Grain Growers' Rallies were organized by the Association on a large scale in 1923.

163. The S.G.G.A. was represented by Mrs. McNaughtan and Mr. Edwards, before the Agricultural Committee of the House of Commons in 1923. They gave very valuable evidence on agricultural conditions in the West.

164. A representative of the Association attended sittings of the Royal Commission to enquire into the alleged shipping combine on the

Great Lakes, in 1923. An eminent lawyer was also engaged by the Canadian Council of Agriculture to watch the interests of farmers before this Commission.

165. The then President, Mr. Maharg, gave evidence on behalf of the Association before the Royal Grain Enquiry Commission, sitting in Regina, 1923.

166. Representations were made on behalf of the Association before the Board of Railway Commissioners at Regina and Saskatoon against the application of the express companies for an increase of Express Rates; the Women's Section also opposed the application.

167. In the latter part of July, 1923, after the Wheat Board negotiations had failed, the Executive of the Grain Growers' Association decided to organize a voluntary pool to market the 1923 crop. This decision was taken because the Executive believed it was too late in the season to organize on a contract basis in time for the 1923 crop. It was distinctly understood, however, that this was a temporary measure only, and that the Association would at once begin organization work for a 1924 Wheat Pool on a contract basis.

168. An Interprovincial Conference was held in Regina on the 23rd July, 1923, with representatives from Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta Associations. At this Conference, it was unanimously decided to proceed at once with the organization of Provincial Contract Pools, with an Interprovincial Selling Agency, for 1924. A committee,

with a representative from each province, was appointed at this meeting, to draft a contract for the proposed pools, and to formulate plans for organization work to commence immediately in each province.

Very shortly after this, Mr. Sapiro came to Saskatchewan, after having addressed a series of meetings in Alberta. At the time of Mr. Sapiro's meeting in Saskatoon, in order that there might be the greatest measure of unity possible amongs: the farmers of Saskatchewan, the Executive of the S.G.G.A. decided, notwithstanding their personal feelings in the matter, to co-operate whole heartedly with all the other organizations in Saskatchewan in a determined attempt to organize a Saskatchewan Wheat Pool on a contract basis in time to market the 1923 crop.

From that time forward, all the resources of the Association were placed at the disposal of the Wheat Pool organization. In the initial stages of the campaign, when the Wheat Pool Committee was without funds with which to proceed with the necessary organization work, the S.G.G.A. advanced \$10,000 to the Pool in order that there might not be any delay. This money was afterwards returned to the Association by the Wheat Pool.

The entire campaign, from its inception to the end of the final drive, was directed from the Central Office of the Association, with the Central Secretary as Campaign Manager, and for the greater part of a year, almost the entire time of the President and Secretary of the Association was spent on Wheat Pool work. Feeling that the establishment of the Wheat Pool was the one big

question before the farmers of the province, the Executive decided that all Association organization work should be suspended until the Pool became an established fact. It is quite possible that the membership of the Association suffered by the adoption of this policy, but there can be no question that it had a very beneficial effect so far as the Wheat Pool was concerned.

169. The Association definitely cut itself loose from Provincial politics at the Convention of 1924.

170. The Association is contributing each year over \$1,000 to various charitable institutions—the interest on the Patriotic Acre Fund.

171. The Association was strongly represented on the Canadian Council of Agriculture delegation to Ottawa, April, 1924, to urge on the Government immediate and substantial reductions in the customs tariff. Some reduction was effected in the Budget of that year.

172. Another matter brought forward was the advisability of using the national credit for the provision at reasonable rates of interest of intermediate and long term farm credits. As a result of the continued agitation of the farmers' organizations the Government appointed Dr. Tory, of the University of Alberta, to make an investigation into the question. Dr. Tory presented to the Government a report strongly advising that a system of long term credits be established. A report of the Agricultural Committee of the House was adopted which commits the Government to introduce legislation for this purpose.

173. The development of the Vancouver Route, with all public grain elevators under the control



of the Board of Grain Commissioners, and the maintenance of the Grain Research Laboratory at Winnipeg were urged on the Government. The Grain Research Laboratory has now been reopened.

174. The Government was urged to undertake the supervision and inspection of banks, and to place the Federal and Provincial Governments on the same basis as all other depositors. The supervision and inspection of banks has now been adopted.

175. Protection of British subjects and others domiciled in Canada from deportation without trial was also asked by the deputation. This was adopted by the House of Commons, but was rejected by the Senate.

176. The appointment of an agricultural representative on the board of the C.N.R. was urged by the deputation.

177. The deputation strongly urged the restoration of the full terms of the Crow's Nest Pass Agreement, which was done, although the Agreement has since been abolished.

178. The handing over to the Provincial Governments of the surplus funds from the 1919-20 Wheat Board was urged by the deputation, to which the Government acceded.

179. The personal naturalization of women, and the retention of British nationality by British women who marry foreigners was also urged on the Government.

180. The immediate completion and construction of C.N.R. lines in settled districts was asked by the deputation. Some of this work has now been carried out.

181. The same deputation asked for rigid economy in Government administration. The money voted by Parliament showed a reduction of nearly \$40,000,000 as compared with the previous year. For some of this reduction the C.C.A. deputation may no doubt take credit.

182. Equalized freight rates on grain on eastern and western routes was urged on the Government by the deputation.

183. The deputation urged the Government to call a conference to define the fields of taxation, and to reduce the cost of tax collections. A conference between Federal and Provincial authorities has since been held.

184. The Association threw in its lot with the On-to-the-Bay Association, and circularized all locals and officials urging them to write or wire their Member at Ottawa to bring pressure to bear on the Government to secure immediate action to complete the Hudson Bay Railway.

185. The Canadian Council of Agriculture, on behalf of the provincial farmers' organizations, engaged Mr. Symington, K.C., to watch the interests of farmers in connection with the proposed re-classification of freight rates, in 1924.

186. The Canadian Council of Agriculture entered a vigorous protest against increased Stock Yard Charges, 1924.

187. The Vice-President attended a conference of the Employment Service of Canada at Edmonton, March, 1924. At this conference it was decided to recommend a basic wage of \$40.00 per month as a maximum for experienced help for summer months, with a trifle higher rate when engaged for the season. Inexperienced help to be paid not more than from \$20.00 to \$30.00 per month.

It was suggested that locals of all farmers' organizations should co-operate with the Employment Service. (1) in the appointment of local distributing agents. (2) By assisting in the establishment and maintenance of a fair basic rate of wages, and (3) by the largest possible co-operation with the Employment Service of Canada.

All locals of the S.G.G.A. were circularized by the Central Office early in the season, with a view to securing uniform action in the supply of labor and the stabilization of wages on the above basis.

188. A permanent Economic Board for Saskatchewan was formed as an outcome of the Economic Conference called by the President of the S.G.G.A. in Regina in May, 1924. The object of the Board is to go thoroughly into Western financial conditions, and to investigate ways and means of placing farming on a sound financial basis. A further result of the conference has been to place the Government Debt Adjustment Bureau on a more satisfactory basis.

189. An outcome of the Economic Board was the appointment of a committee to ascertain the possibilities of mixed farming at a profit.

190. Another committee was organized by the Board to enquire into the financial conditions and financing of western farmers.

191. In 1924 the Association, in conjunction with the Co-operation and Markets Branch of the Department of Agriculture, organized a voluntary Turkey Pool for the Province.

192. In the fall of 1924 the Women's Section of the Association organized a fund for the relief of distress in the dried out districts of the Province. Through this fund clothing weighing approximately 16 tons was supplied to about 2600 persons during the winter of 1924-25. Considerably more than \$2,000 was raised for this fund through the columns of the Morning Leader and Daily Post. In addition to the above, many generous contributions were made by locals, and a grant was also made by the Association from the Patriotic Acre Fund for this purpose.

193. November 3rd, 1924, the President and Vice-President of the Association met the Ministers of the Federal Government in Regina, on the occasion of Premier King's visit, and urged further reductions in the tariff, revision of the Bank Act, restoration of Crow's Nest Pass Rates, and completion of Hudson Bay Railway.

194. November 19th, 1924, the Vice-President presented the case for the farmers, demanding reinstatement of the Crow's Nest Agreement, before the Board of Railway Commissioners at Regina. The S.G.G.A. was the only farmers' organization in the Province to appear before the Board.

195. The C.C.A., with which the Association is affiliated, arranged a conference with the Mort-

gage Loans Associations, at Winnipeg, on December 16-17, 1924, securing a declaration in favor of 8 per cent. as a maximum rate of interest on loans, with a further reduction as conditions approximate to those in the east. A large amount of valuable information was accumulated by the Central Office by means of a questionnaire sent out to all locals by the Association.

196. December 3rd, 1924, Geo. F. Edwards, President, took part in a great delegation to Ottawa re Crow's Nest Pass Rates.

197. The Association distributed free of charge 1500 copies of the Turgeon Commission Report on the grain trade.

198. In 1925 the Association initiated a campaign to organize a contract Poultry and Egg Pool for the Province, with the active assistance of the Co-operation, and Markets Branch of the Provincial Department of Agriculture.

199. In 1925 H. J. Symington, K.C., was retained by the C.C.A. in conjunction with the Association and the United Farmers of Manitoba and Alberta to watch the interests of farmers in connection with the revision of the Canada Grain Act.

200. In 1925 action was taken by the Saskatchewan Co-operative Wheat Producers, Ltd., following the request of the Association, to organize a Coarse Grains Pool for the Province.

201. In 1925 the Association, in co-operation with the Department of Immigration and Colonization, arranged, through a number of its locals, to

welcome immigrants from Great Britain, and to give them assistance in establishing themselves on farms in the Province. Similar action was taken during the season 1926.

202. In 1925 the Parliament of Canada passed an amendment equalizing the Divorce Laws as between men and women. The Women's Section of the Association, in co-operation with the Women's organizations of other provinces and the C.C.A., has agitated for this reform for many years.

203. On May 2nd, 1925, the President, Geo. F. Edwards, represented the Association on the great On-to-the-Bay delegation to Ottawa. The Central Office also distributed forms of petition to the locals through which many thousands of signatures were obtained.

204. Arising out of a resolution of the Annual Convention of 1925, action was taken by the Executive towards the organization of a Provincial Live Stock Pool. A small committee was appointed to investigate the possibilities of a Live Stock Pool preparatory to more definite action, the Vice-President of the Association, the Hon. George Langley, being Chairman of the committee. This new marketing body is now in process of organization.

205. Following a decision of the Annual Convention of 1925, a committee was appointed by the Executive to confer with a similar committee of the Farmers' Union of Canada, with a view to amalgamation of the two bodies. The committee of the Association agreed to the amendment of the constitution to provide for the admission as members only of bona fide farmers,

the admission of members by ballot, the obligation of members to make a declaration to carry out the principles of the amalgamated body, and to provide for a change of name. Coupled with these concessions was a request that the Union would consent to the linking up of the amalgamated body with the existing farm organizations in other provinces, and to create or reorganize a body to act as a Federal binding agency, the constitution of which would always give to the representatives of the farmers' economic organizations the predominant voice in its government.

On the rejection of these proposals by the committee and executive of the Farmers' Union, the committee and executive of the Association agreed to submit the whole question to a joint convention of the two bodies, and to accept the decision of such convention. This proposal too was rejected by the Farmers' Union.

As a result of further negotiations, however, separate conventions of the two bodies were held in Saskatoon in January, 1926, followed by a joint convention on Friday, January 29th, at which a basis for amalgamation was discussed and decided upon. A joint amalgamation committee was appointed following the conventions, five from each organization, to work out details which are to be submitted to separate conventions of the two organizations held at the same time, to be followed by a joint convention, if the separate conventions ratify by a three-fourths vote the agreement arrived at by the joint amalgamation committees. This convention is to be held prior to November 15th in order that the agreement finally arrived at may be made effective by legislative sanction of the Provincial Legislature, this

step being necessary owing to the fact that the S.G.G.A. is incorporated under a special act, and under that act has responsibilities which it cannot turn over to a new organization without the sanction of the Saskatchewan Legislature, and besides it will be necessary to secure a charter for the new organization, which the joint convention decided was to be provincial in character.

Two meetings of the Joint Committee appointed by the conventions have been held, and at the meeting which took place on March 2nd, 1926, an agreement was signed on behalf of both organizations, embodying the sense of the resolutions passed by the Joint Convention, and the solicitors of the two organizations are at present preparing a constitution and necessary documents to be submitted to the separate conventions, which the Executive of this Association suggested should be held in July, 1926, in order that all the steps leading to amalgamation may be taken as soon as possible.

206. In June, 1925, the President of the Association attended a conference between the Manitoba and Saskatchewan Governments and the Boards of Trade of the two provinces, which decided to make representations to the Federal Government, designed to secure something for the West to compensate for the loss of the Crows' Nest Pass Agreement.

207. The Central Association assisted in the organization of the Great Co-operative Rally at the Regina Exhibition on July 30th, 1925.

208. The Central Board requested the Federal Government to re-establish the Seed Grain Commission, 1925.

209. The Association contributed the sum of \$250 to the "Save the Children Fund," 1925.

210. Copies of the Report of the Economic Board's Mixed Farming committee were distributed to the Central Board and all Constituency Organizers.

211. The Junior work of the Association was greatly extended during the year, 44 new Junior Locals being established.

212. A grant of \$310 was made from the Patriotic Acre Fund to the Everywoman's Fund, and paid through the Women's Section, bringing the total contribution to this Fund to the sum of \$1,000 for the year 1925.

213. The Association took definite action during 1925 re the proposed reorganization of the Canadian Council of Agriculture.

214. The Executive passed a resolution favoring the co-ordination of co-operative bodies into one great co-operative marketing concern, and empowered the Board of Directors to take any action they may think fit to give effect to the resolution.

215. The Executive arranged a second Economic Course at the University, which took place in March, 1926, with the intention of making this a permanent feature.

216. The Executive adopted a resolution approving of the policy of the Wheat Pool Board.

217. A resolution re the restoration of the Crows' Nest Pass Rates was forwarded to the Federal Government and all Western members, 1925.

218. The questions of the Radville-Fife Lake Line, and the unsatisfactory service on the Shaunavon Line were taken up with the railway authorities.

219. A resolution on the tariff question was sent to the Government and the C.C.A.

220. The Association organized a drive for the Western Producer in February, 1925.

221. Convention resolutions involving provincial action were taken up with the Government.

222. The Association adopted a resolution expressing strong disapproval of the provision in the Grain Act which denies the right of farmers to denote the terminals where their grain shall be stored previous to sale.

223. The Association defended a case in which Officers of the Sedley Grain Growers' Association were proceeded against under the Hawkers' and Pedlers' Act, to prevent their combining for the purchase of a car load of twine. The case was won, and the right of farmers to combine for the purchase of supplies was upheld, August, 1925.

224. In 1925 the Association successfully negotiated a claim for cattle killed on the railway, securing from the company an advance of 60%

over its original offer; and also took up a number of legal and other cases on behalf of members of the Association.

225. In July, 1925, the Canadian Council of Agriculture filed a case with the Board of Railway Commissioners for a downward revision of freight rates, so as to increase the returns to the producer, and abolish all discrimination between East and West.

226. The Association was represented at an inter-provincial conference on Harvest Labor at Winnipeg. July, 1925.

227. A grant of \$50 was made by the Executive of the Association to the Hafford Hospital, 1925.

228. Questions respecting training courses for teachers, larger school units, the administration of estates and the work of the Official Guardian, military training in schools and the placing of the Boy's Industrial Home, Regina, under the Department of Education, were brought before the Government by the Women's Section, 1925.

229. Investigational work with regard to Legislation, Home Economics, Education, Marketing, Public Health and Immigration was carried on by the Women's Section, 1925.

320. An investigation was carried out by the Women's Section into the cost of administration particularly of small estates in which women and children are interested, much valuable information being secured, 1925.

231. Investigational work with respect to Succession Duties carried on by the Women's Section in conjunction with the Farm Women of other provinces, 1925.

232. The Canadian Council of Agriculture approved the calling of an interprovincial conference to deal with the question of Senate Reform, March, 1925.

233. At the same meeting the Council asked the Dominion Government to exercise its power to suspend the coastal shipping laws when necessary to prevent discriminatory and unreasonable charges for the carriage of grain between Canadian Lake ports. Partial action was taken by the Government permitting American vessels on their last trip of the season to load grain at Fort William for winter storage afloat, cargo to be discharged at Canadian ports the following spring.

234. The Council demanded Reciprocity with the States, and a substantial reduction in the duties on the necessities of life, raw materials of manufacture, and implements of production, March, 1925.

235. The Council further asked for the right of personal naturalization of married women, and permitting British women who marry persons of foreign citizenship to retain their British citizenship if they desire to do so.

236. The Canadian Council opposed the tariff increases involved in the Australian Treaty. A number of proposed increases were afterwards dropped by the Government.

237. The Council also urged that the Income Tax should be maintained substantially at the present scale, and that any reductions in taxation should be in the direction of reducing the cost of living and of production, March, 1925.

238. Complete restoration of the freight rates guaranteed by the Crows' Nest Pass Agreement, and their application to all commodities and territories mentioned, as before its suspension during the war, was demanded by the Council.

Legislation was passed by Parliament making permanent the Crows' Nest Rates on grain and flour from the Prairies to Ft. William and points east. This made possible the lower rates on grain and flour from the prairies to the Pacific Coast for export, which became effective Sept., 1925.

239. The Council asked that cadet training in the schools should be discontinued, and replaced by physical education of all boys and girls fit to receive such education.

240. The Council also asked that kerosene be placed on the free list in the customs tariff.

241. A further request was that steps be taken to insure that prospective immigrants be given correct information as to actual conditions in this country, and that all immigrants be examined by mental experts at the point of embarkation instead of at the point of landing.

242. The C.C.A. urged the re-valuation of Soldier Settlers' holdings. Partial relief has been

given by a reduction of the indebtedness charged against them for livestock.

243. The C.C.A. secured an amendment to the Bankruptcy Act which makes it possible for farmers hopelessly involved to make use of its provisions.

244. The S.G.G.A. was represented on a committee appointed by the Council having in view the establishment of Dominion-wide uniform standards of farm produce, and the development of Dominion-wide co-operative marketing facilities for Canadian agricultural products.

245. In conjunction with the Central Board of the Wheat Pools, the C.C.A. secured amendments to the Grain Act protecting the interests of the producers, including equal treatment with the elevators as to the use of the car order book, extension of time for loading, the retention of No. 1 Hard in the grades, recognition of the pooling system, prohibiting the shipment of grain to mixing elevators except with the owner's consent, and other provisions.

246. The Association was represented at a freight rates conference on the invitation of the Attorney-General of the Province in August, 1925.

247. The Executive of the Association asked for better representation of agriculture on the Board of Railway Commissioners in August, 1925.

248. On the representation of the Executive of the S.G.G.A. a portion of the surplus from the Canada Wheat Board is to be devoted to the

investigation of the problems of co-operative marketing. January, 1926.

249. The Saskatchewan Co-operative Poultry Producers, Ltd. (Egg and Poultry Pool) was established Jan., 1926. The decision to organize this pool was made by the Executive of the S.G.C.A. following on a resolution of the Annual Convention in Jan., 1925. The whole of the organization work was done through the Central Office of the Association, with the assistance of the Provincial Department of Agriculture. The Association also provided office space for the Pool throughout the year, and rendered very considerable financial assistance.

2 This Pool is the direct outcome of the investigational and educational work of the Marketing Committee of the Women's Section in previous years, and the Women's Section rendered every possible assistance with the work of organization.

250. In February, 1926, the Council formulated a plan for Long Term Rural Credits, including the following provisions, which the Government was asked to include in its legislation during the session of 1926, viz:—

(1) The funds loaned to be raised by the sale of bonds secured by first mortgages on the lands of all borrowers within any province electing to avail itself of the scheme, the bonds to be guaranteed by the Dominion Government and each provincial government to guarantee repayment to the Dominion of all funds employed within its province.

(2) Each Province coming into the system to establish a Farm Loan Board to make loans to

individual farmers within that province in such manner as to secure freedom from political influence, and to make the system completely self-supporting.

(3) Loans not to exceed fifty per cent. of the appraised value of the lands mortgaged, and to be applied only to the purchase of lands, equipment and stock, the provision of permanent improvements or the retirement of existing mortgages.

(4) Provision to be made for the establishment in any locality of farm loan associations of ten or more farmers desiring to receive loans under the conditions prescribed, such associations to administer their own affairs under the supervision of the Provincial Farm Loan Boards, and their members to be jointly liable for ten per cent. of the individual obligations incurred. The Council believes that this system of co-operative effort, with joint liability, though slow in growth, will produce the highest type of security and the lowest administrative expense, thus providing long-term farm credit at the absolute minimum of cost.

(5) The rate of interest on loans not to exceed one per cent. more than that paid on the bonds sold, and in addition, the loan to be amortized over a period of not less than thirty years, with permission to repay in whole, or in part, at any time after three years without notice or bonus.

(6) That the term of Farm Loan Bonds be not less than thirty years, and that they be not exempt from taxation.

**"Be it further resolved that a statement of the reasons for these recommendations be prepared and submitted to the Dominion Government."**

**251. The C.C.A. declared itself in favor of coupling the conscription of wealth and resources, etc., with the conscription of man power, in case the latter should become necessary in the event of another war. Feb., 1926.**

**252. The Council asked also for the entire re-organization of the Board of Pensions Commissioners, with a view to securing fair and just consideration of the claims of disabled ex-service men. Feb., 1926.**

**253. The Council declared itself as favoring the extension of the work being done by the Federal and Provincial Governments looking to the checking of venereal diseases. Feb., 1926.**

**254. The Council requested the Government to introduce an averaging system in connection with the Income Tax, so that those with fluctuating incomes will pay the same amount of income tax over a given period as those whose incomes are fixed, and of the same amount.**

**255. The Council re-affirmed its stand with respect to the equality of laws as between men and women with regard to domicile, homesteads and personal naturalization.**

**256. The Council also asked that prisoners between the ages of 16 and 21 should not be allowed to come into contact with habitual offenders and professional criminals.**

257. The C.C.A. urged government action to secure Dominion-wide standards for the grading of poultry; also that legislation should be passed making it compulsory, under penalty, for all textiles to be plainly described as to the nature of the fibres therein, the relative quantities and the quality.

258. The Council requested the Federal Government to attempt to establish better trade relations with the United States, with a view to minimising the loss occasioned by the heavy duty on Canadian cattle entering the States, Feb., 1926.

259. The Council re-affirmed its stand in favor of the League of Nations, arbitration in international disputes and the limitation of armaments, Feb., 1926.

260. The Council expressed its desire for an amendment of the Canada Grain Act restoring to farmers the right to ship their grain to whatever elevator they wish, and also to place on country elevators again liability for grades and weights.

261. The Council demanded more equitable representation of Western Canada on the Board of Railway Commissioners, Feb., 1926.

262. It was also resolved to bring pressure to bear on the Federal and Provincial Governments with a view to having the proper reductions on Western Grain Rates put into effect at an early date.

263. In order to have the National Transcontinental Railway used for the purpose for which

it was constructed, the Council urged the Government and the Board of Railway Commissioners to put into effect the lowest freight rates on grain and live stock over this line at which the Canadian National Railways can operate without loss. Feb., 1926.

264. The Council declared itself as unalterably opposed to the whole principal of Tariff Protection, and expressed its belief that an immediate and substantial reduction of the tariff is necessary to the best interests of the country.

265. The Council protested strongly against the holding of elections during seed time, harvest and threshing, as disfranchising a large portion of the rural population.

266. The Council opposed the proposal that loss of revenue due to a reduction in the Sales Tax should be made up by an increase in the tariff. Feb., 1926.

267. The Hawkers' and Peddlers' Act was amended by the Legislature in January, 1926, at the request of the S.G.G.A. to consolidate the position won in the Sedley case.

268. A Report of the Annual Convention was sent out by the Association to all delegates for the first time, Feb., 1926.

269. Professor Fay, of Toronto University was brought to the West by the Association Jan., 1926, when he delivered a very valuable series of addresses on co-operation and other subjects before the Annual Conventions of the three prairie provinces and other bodies.

270. A deputation of the C.C.A., including Geo. F. Edwards, President of the Association, interviewed the Government at Ottawa, to urge on them the adoption of the principles laid down in the C.C.A. scheme of Rural Credits, for inclusion in the Government Bill to be introduced during the 1926 session of the House, and other matters mentioned in the foregoing notes, April, 1926.

